

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7185

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, AS, PT,PO, ID

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE TIMOR-LETTER TO UN SECRETARY

GENERAL FROM FRETILIN

1. THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE INCLUDING A LETTER FROM
FRETILIN TO THE U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL HAS BEEN CIRCULATED
AS UN DOCUMENT S/12060, 28 APRIL 1976:

QUOTE

LETTER DATED 28 APRIL 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF GUINEA-BISSAU TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO TRANSMIT THE TEXT OF A COMMUNICATION FROM
THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF EAST TIMOR. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL
IF YOUR EXCELLENCY WOULD ARRANGE FOR IT TO BE CIRCULATED
AS A DOCUMENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

(SIGNED) GIL FERNANDES

AMBASSADOR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

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ANNEX

LETTER DATED 27 APRIL 1976 FROM FMR. JOSE RAMOS-HORTA
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

AS YOU ARE MOST CERTAINLY AWARE, SINCE THE INDONESIAN
INVASION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF EAST TIMOR ON
7. DECEMBER 1975, THERE HAS
BEEN IN EFFECT A LAND, SEA AND AIR BLOCKADE OF THE TERRITORY.
UPON THE INVASION, THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS OPERATIVES
WHO HAD BEEN WORKING IN THE TERRITORY LEFT, TOGETHER WITH
REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER AID AND HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS. THIS
ACTION HAS LEFT THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR AT THE PERIL
OF INDONESIAN MILITARY AGGRESSION AND THE DISEASES AND
MEDICAL HAZARDS ATTENDANT ON BIOLOGICAL WARFARE BEING PRACTICED BY THE AGGRESSORS.

IN RESPONSE TO THIS VIOLATION OF BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS,
SEVERAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN AUSTRALIA-SUPPORTED BY
FUNDS AND MESSAGES OF SOLIDARITY FROM SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS
IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND EUROPEAN COUNTRIES-HAVE DECIDED TO MAKE A CONCERTED EFFORT TO BREAK
THE ILLEGAL BLOCKADE OF THE TERRITORY OF EAST TIMOR
TO ENABLE MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND MATERIALS TO REACH THE
DISTRESSED AREAS.

THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS, TOGETHER WITH ABROAD COALITION OF CHURCH AND AID ORGANIZATIONS, HAS CHARTERED
A 96-FOOT, THREE-MASTED SCHOONER, POWERED BY A GARDNER
DIESEL ENGINE AND CAPABLE OF CARRYING 100 TONS OF CARGO,
INCLUDING 15 TONS OF REFRIGERATED VOLUME. THIS VESSEL WILL
BE MANNED BY A VOLUNTEER CREW OF SIX MEMBERS OF THE SEAMEN'S
UNION; IT IS CAPABLE OF CARRYING 20 PASSENGERS, MAINLY NEWSMEN,
AND IS SERVICED BY A RADIO TRANSMITTER WITH A RANGE OF 1,000
MILES. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THIS VESSEL WILL BE READY TO
LEAVE THE NORTHERN COAST OF AUSTRALIA FOR EAST TIMOR IN 12
TO 14 DAYS FROM NOW.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND
MATERIALS REACH THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR IN THEIR SUFFERING
AT THIS TIME. IT IS ESSENTIAL, TOO, THAT INDEPENDENT OBSERVATION
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PERSONS ARE ENABLED TO RETURN TO EAST TIMOR TO ACT AS INHIBITORS ON THE INDONESIAN EXCESSES, OF WHICH INCREASINGLY
INFORMATION IS REACHING THE OUTSIDE WORLD.

I ASK YOU, SIR, TO USE YOUR YOUR GOOD OFFICES TO FACILITATE
THE SUCCESS OF THIS MISSION, INITIATED BY PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS
IN A TRULY HUMANITARIAN SPIRIT, BY PREVAILING UPON THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDONESIA NOT TO OBSTRUCT THE PASSAGE OF THIS

VESSEL. MAY I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAL TO UNITED
NATIONS MEMBER STATES TO ENDORSE THIS MISSION.

(SIGNED) JOSE RAMOS-HORTA

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND INFORMATION
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF EAST TIMOR

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